

# ***Annual Assessment Meeting Browns Ferry, Sequoyah, and Watts Bar Nuclear Plants***

**Reactor Oversight Process – 2024**

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**Nuclear Regulatory Commission - Region II**

**Athens, AL**

**April 7, 2025**



# ***Purpose***



**Discuss Licensee  
Performance in  
2024**



**Address Findings  
and Performance  
Indicators**



**Open House and  
Discussion**



# Agenda

- Introductions
- NRC Mission Statement and Strategic Goals
- Reactor Oversight Process (ROP) Review
- NRC Resident Inspector Program
- Annual Assessment Summary
  - Browns Ferry
  - Sequoyah
  - Watts Bar
- Question and Answer (Q&A)



# ***Introductions***

## **Regional Personnel**

- Ryan Taylor, Branch Chief
- Natasha Childs, Senior Project Engineer
- Lisa Alexander, Administrative Assistant

## **Browns Ferry Resident Office**

- Tim Steadham, Senior Resident Inspector
- Kevin Pfeil, Resident Inspector
- Shamica Billups, Resident Inspector

## **Sequoyah Resident Office**

- Pete Meier, Senior Resident Inspector
- Alex Price, Resident Inspector

## **Watts Bar Resident Office**

- Dave Hardage, Senior Resident Inspector
- Robert Wehrmann, Resident Inspector
- Amy Birdsong, Site Administrative Assistant



# ***Mission Statement***

- The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) protects public health and safety and advances the nation's common defense and security by enabling the safe and secure use and deployment of civilian nuclear energy technologies and radioactive materials through efficient and reliable licensing, oversight, and regulation for the benefit of society and the environment.

## **STRATEGIC GOALS**

- Safety and Security: Ensure the safe and secure use of radioactive materials.
- Organizational Health: Continue to foster a healthy organization.
- Stakeholder Confidence: Inspire stakeholder confidence in the NRC.



# ***NRC Reactor Oversight Process***



**Implemented in  
each of the NRC's  
Four Regions**



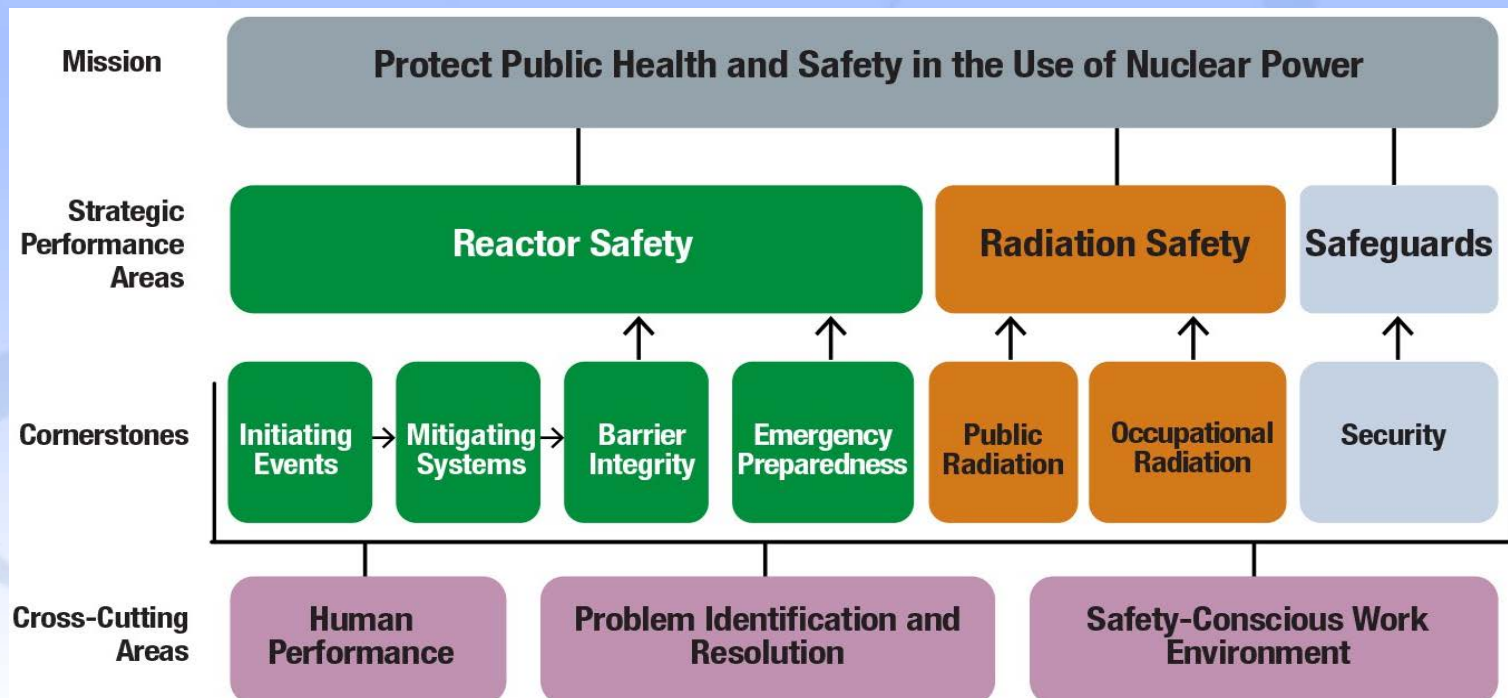
**Involves Inspection  
and Assessment  
Activities**



**Performed by Regional  
and Resident Inspectors**



# NRC Reactor Oversight Framework





# ***Action Matrix Concept***

<b>Licensee Response (Column 1)</b>	<b>Regulatory Response (Column 2)</b>	<b>Degraded Performance (Column 3)</b>	<b>Multiple/Repetitive Degraded Cornerstone (Column 4)</b>	<b>Unacceptable Performance (Column 5)</b>
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Increasing:

- Safety Significance
- Inspection
- Management Involvement
- Regulatory Action



# ***Resident Inspector Program***

- NRC Resident Inspectors live in the local communities and perform inspection activities at Browns Ferry, Sequoyah, and Watts Bar Nuclear Plants
- Provide daily oversight of plant activity





# *Resident Inspector Program*

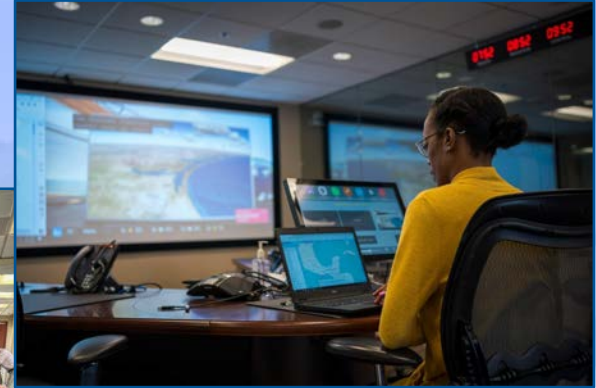
- Daily visits to Control Room
- Periodic meetings with plant senior managers
- Prioritize inspections based on important plant activity





# *Resident Inspector Program*

- Observe emergency drills and provide support to NRC decision makers for any actual events or urgent issues





# ***Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant NRC Annual Assessment Summary***

- Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) operated Browns Ferry Units 1, 2, and 3 safely and in a manner that preserved the public health and safety and protected the environment.
- Browns Ferry Units 1 and 3 were in the Licensee Response Column (Column 1) of the NRC's ROP Action Matrix for all of calendar year (CY) 2024.
- Browns Ferry Unit 2 began the assessment period in Column 1 of the Action Matrix and transitioned to the Regulatory Response Column (Column 2) in the third quarter of 2024 due to a White finding and remained in Column 2 for the rest of CY 2024.

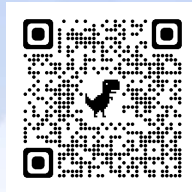


# ***Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant NRC Annual Assessment Summary***

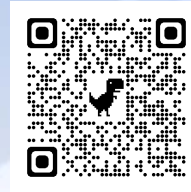
- One White finding and ten non-cited violations were identified in CY 2024.
- All performance indicators were Green; no performance thresholds were exceeded.
- Other than the supplemental inspection discussed on the next slide, NRC plans to conduct baseline inspection at Browns Ferry Units 1, 2, and 3 in CY 2025.



Browns Ferry 1  
Assessment Summary



Browns Ferry 2  
Assessment Summary



Browns Ferry 3  
Assessment Summary



# ***Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant Safety-Significant Findings***

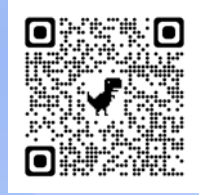
- **Browns Ferry Unit 2 – White Finding**

- The Final Significance Determination, Notice of Violation and Assessment Follow-up Letter was issued on November 21, 2024, related to a Unit 2 high pressure coolant injection pump rupture disc failure (ADAMS ML24310A203).
- On January 15, 2025, TVA notified the NRC of their readiness for a supplemental inspection per inspection procedure 95001, “Supplemental Inspection Response to Action Matrix Column 2 (Regulatory Response) Inputs.”
- NRC inspectors completed the 95001 inspection on February 13, 2025; inspection results are documented in inspection report 05000260/2025040 (ADAMS ML25079A182).

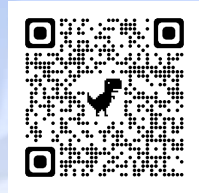


# ***Sequoyah Nuclear Plant NRC Annual Assessment Summary***

- TVA operated Sequoyah Units 1 and 2 safely and in a manner that preserved the public health and safety and protected the environment.
- Sequoyah Units 1 and 2 were in the Licensee Response Column for all of CY 2024.
- Three Green non-cited violations were identified in CY 2024.
- All performance indicators were Green; no performance thresholds were exceeded.
- The NRC plans to conduct baseline inspection at Sequoyah Units 1 and 2 in CY 2025.



Sequoyah 1  
Assessment  
Summary



Sequoyah 2  
Assessment  
Summary



# ***Watts Bar Nuclear Plant***

## ***NRC Annual Assessment Summary***

- TVA operated Watts Bar Units 1 and 2 safely and in a manner that preserved the public health and safety and protected the environment.
- Watts Bar Units 1 and 2 began the 2024 assessment period in the Regulatory Response Column (Column 2) of the ROP Action Matrix.
- Watts Bar Unit 1 transitioned from the Regulatory Response Column to the Licensee Response Column (Column 1) effective June 13, 2024, following successful completion of a 95001 supplemental inspection related to a Security Greater-than-Green finding (ADAMS ML24191A271).
- Watts Bar Unit 2 transitioned from Column 2 to Column 1 effective December 12, 2024, following successful completion of a 95001 supplemental inspection related to a White performance indicator for Unplanned Scrams per 7000 Critical Hours (ADAMS ML25013A198).



# ***Watts Bar Nuclear Plant NRC Annual Assessment Summary***

- One Security Greater-than-Green finding, one apparent violation with pending significance, and 18 Green NCVs were identified in CY 2024.
- All performance indicators were Green; no performance thresholds were exceeded.
- The NRC plans to conduct baseline inspection at Watts Bar Units 1 and 2 in CY 2025.



Watts Bar 1  
Assessment Summary



Watts Bar 2  
Assessment Summary



# ***Watts Bar Nuclear Plant Safety-Significant Findings***

- **Watts Bar Units 1 and 2 – Apparent Violation (Pending)**
  - In the last quarter of CY 2024, NRC inspectors identified an apparent violation with pending significance associated with emergency diesel generator intake damper failures (ADAMS ML25043A055).
  - The final safety significance will be documented in inspection report 05000390,05000391/2025001 and will be available at <https://www.nrc.gov/reactors/operating/oversight/listofrpts-body.html#bf>.



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# ***Getting in Touch with the NRC***

- Agency Website: [www.nrc.gov](http://www.nrc.gov)
- Office of Public Affairs: 301-415-8200 or [OPA2.Resource@nrc.gov](mailto:OPA2.Resource@nrc.gov)
- Report a Safety or Security Concern
  - Emergency: 301-816-5100 (24-hr Headquarters Operation Center)
  - Non-Emergency: 1-800-695-7403 or [allegation@nrc.gov](mailto:allegation@nrc.gov)
- Contact NRC Resident Inspectors
  - Browns Ferry: 404-997-5110
  - Sequoyah: 404-997-5240
  - Watts Bar: 404-997-5300



# ***Feedback / Q&A***

## **Public Meeting Feedback Form:**

1. Navigate to <https://feedback.nrc.gov/pmfs/>
2. Enter meeting code number: 20250366



## **Questions??**

- Those on Teams, please raise your virtual hand
- Phone participants, please dial \*5 raise your hand, then \*6 to unmute yourself when called on